

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 12, 2019

The Honorable Robert E. Lighthizer
United States Trade Representative
Office of the United States Trade Representative
600 17th Street NW
Washington, DC 20508

Dear Ambassador Lighthizer,

The freshman Democratic class is one of the most diverse in history. We come from different backgrounds, different walks of life, and represent different types of districts across the country. As such, we have a wide range of different views on the opportunities and challenges created by globalization, trade policy, and trade agreements. Some of our districts have seen the benefits of international trade and investment while others have faced real challenges from globalization and U.S. trade policy. However, together we share your commitment to negotiate trade agreements that work for American workers, farmers, businesses, and consumers alike, and we expect the Administration to engage meaningfully with us, listen to our views, and work with us on solutions that support our constituents.

The North American Free Trade agreement (NAFTA) was first implemented over two decades ago. Since then, we have experienced significant changes to the U.S. economy and international trade that require modernizing the agreement. Moreover, over the last twenty-five years, the U.S. has made several improvements to our trade agreement framework through efforts led by Congressional Democrats to better address problems in past agreements. That is why we strongly support replacing NAFTA with a trade agreement that builds off of these improvements and addresses the issues of the twenty-first century economy, including raising labor and environmental standards in Mexico.

We were not in Congress when President Trump signed the revised NAFTA, now referred to as the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA). As such, we were not consulted in the negotiating of the agreement and therefore, our votes should not be taken for granted. We would like to meet with you and your team to answer our questions, address our concerns, and demonstrate to us the benefits of USMCA to our constituents. Just as we have a range of views on trade agreements in general, we have a range of views on the various provisions of USMCA and would welcome an opportunity to share those with you and your team.

Therefore, before the Administration submits an implementation bill to Congress for consideration, we request a meeting with you and your staff to walk through the various provisions of the agreement and provide our feedback. And we expect you to work with us through each step of the Congressional consideration process for USMCA. Article I, Section 8 of the Constitution gives Congress the enumerated power over tariffs and regulating foreign commerce. We take our constitutional responsibility over trade policy seriously, and we stand

ready to work with the Administration as equal partners in the pursuit of a level playing field for American workers, farmers, businesses, and consumers.

We expect continuous and meaningful consultations with you and the Administration to shape President Trump's trade agenda this Congress. We look forward to discussing USMCA with you and having our questions and concerns addressed.

Sincerely,



Haley M. Stevens
Member of Congress



Colin Allred
Member of Congress



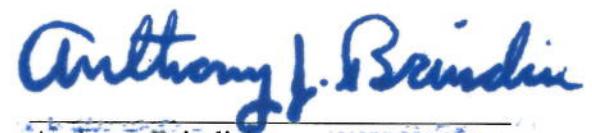
Veronica Escobar
Member of Congress



Chrissy Houlahan
Member of Congress



Ed Case
Member of Congress



Anthony Brindisi
Member of Congress



Kim Schrier
Member of Congress



Lizzie Fletcher
Member of Congress



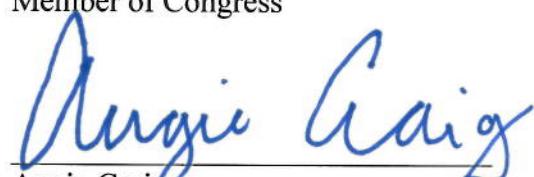
Katie Hill
Member of Congress



Madeleine Dean
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Ben McAdams
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Angie Craig
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Kendra Horn

Kendra Horn
Member of Congress

Josh Harder

Josh Harder
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Susie Lee

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Tom Malinowski

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Jeff Van Drew

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Greg Stanton

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Elissa Slotkin

Elissa Slotkin
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Lauren Underwood

Lauren Underwood
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Lucy McBath

Lucy McBath
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